

LIBRARY

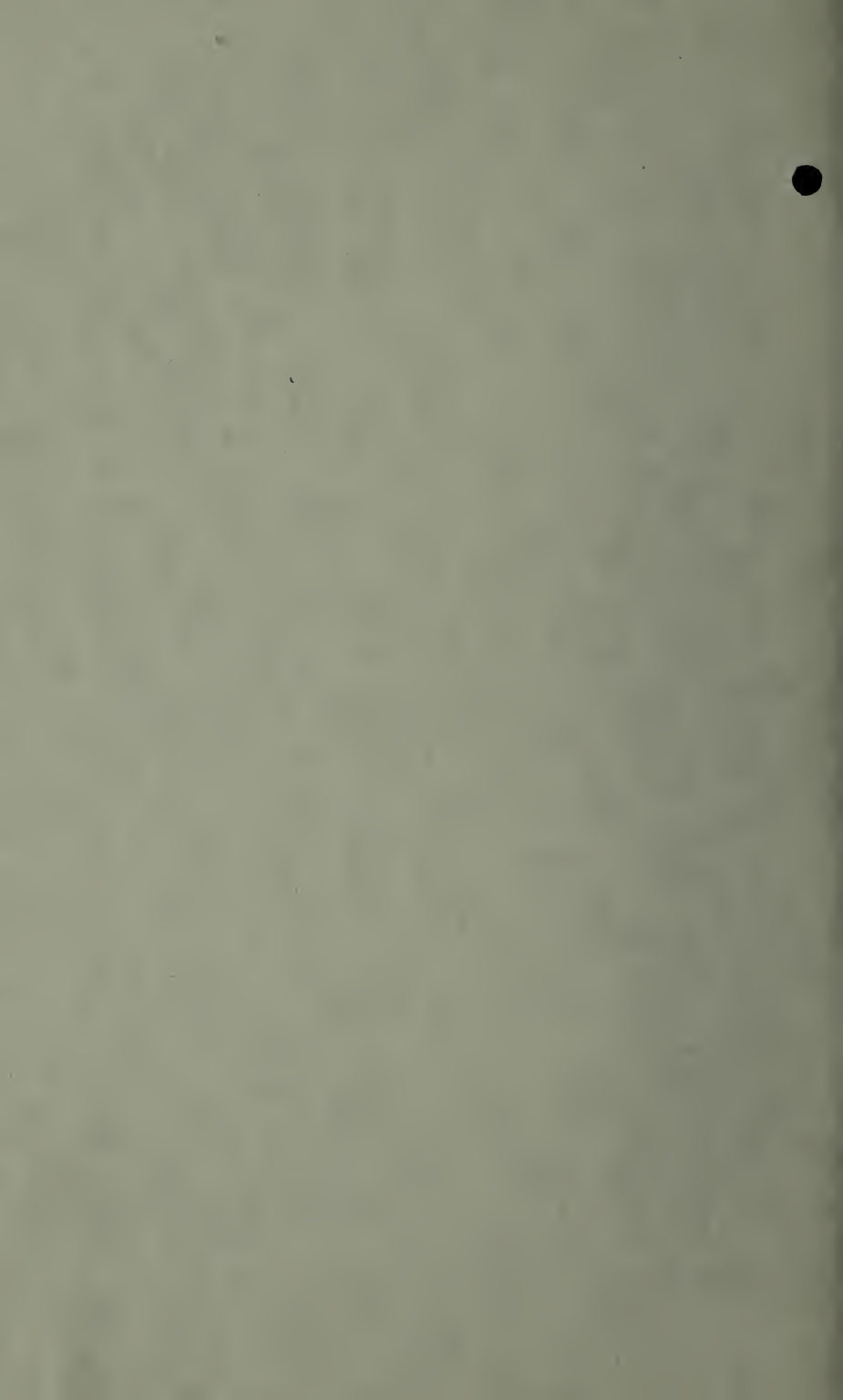
THE URBAN DISTRICT OF TOWYN

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer
of Health
for

1951



Basil Jones & Co., Printers, Red Lion St., Towyn.



The Urban District Council of Towyn

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1951

SECTION A.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	22,959 acres
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population.....	4,410
Number of inhabited houses.....	1,257
Rateable Value.....	£19,213
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£74

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Number of Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
	Males.		Females.		Total.		
Live Birth—Legitimate	36		21		57		
Illegitimate	3		2		5		
Still Births					3		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.06
Illegitimate Birth Rate							
(percentage of total live birth)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.06%

DEATHS.

Number of Deaths	63
Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.29
Number of Deaths of Infants under one year	1
Infant Mortality per 1,000 births	16.13
Infant Mortality (legitimate infants) per 1,000 births	16.13
Infant Mortality (legitimate infants) per 1,000 births	NIL
Maternal mortality per 1,000 births	NIL
Death from Cancer	9
Deaths Rate from Cancer per 1,000 population	2.04
Deaths from Tuberculosis	NIL

Comparative Figures for Six Years per 1,000.

	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
Birth Rate	17.45	14.4	15.0	15.7	11.8	14.06
Death Rate	17.73	14.1	11.4	13.6	11.8	14.29

CAUSES OF DEATH.

					Males	Females	Total
Cancer, Stomach	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Cancer, Breast	...	...	...	...		1	1
Cancer, Other sites	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	1	7	8
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	—	6	6
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	4	6	10
Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals					25	38	63

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

J. A. Davies, L.M.S.S.A., Medical Officer of Health—Part-time
H. Geoffrey Barnes, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector—Part-time,
also acting as Surveyor to the Council.

Laboratory Facilities.

Water Analysis—Chemical—Public Analyst, Chester.

Bacteriological and biological analysis at the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.

Ambulance Facilities.

One ambulance stationed at Towyn.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Held every fortnight at Aberdovey and Towyn.

Ante Natal Clinics.

Held once a month at the Towyn and District Cottage Hospital.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Held at Dolgelley or Machynlleth Hospital.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

Held at Machynlleth Chest Hospital every week.

Hospitals.

One fully equipped hospital at Towyn.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply to Towyn and Bryncrug is from upland streams at Braich-y-rhiw, and treated by a battery of pressure filters and by chlorination. The filtering media and distributing pipes were renewed. There was no failure of the supply during the year.

The water supply for Aberdovey is from upland streams at Cwmffernol and Nant-y-Gwenlli, and supplemented by land springs at Bwlchgwyn. The chlorination plant did not operate satisfactorily. There was no shortage during the year.

The village of Cwrt obtains its supply from the Talgarth main. The water was satisfactory in quality, although the pressure was rather poor.

Land springs, wells, and streams provide supplies to isolated houses and farms.

Consideration was given to proposals for the provision of a new water supply from Afon Dyffryngwyn for the purpose of supplying additional demands by the War Department at Morfa Camp, Towyn, and in the district generally. This was abandoned in favour of a scheme based on the River Fathew, in conjunction with the existing source of supply at Braich-y-rhiw.

On the distribution side, the main work undertaken has comprised the laying of a new main along Neptune Road from the High Street to Bryndedwydd.

Thirty samples were submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.

The results were as follows:—

	Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	Total.
Towyn Water Supply	1	2
Aberdovey Water Supply	1	1
Private Supplies	11	23
River Dyffryngwyn	—	3
River Fathew	1	1

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

TOWYN.—Water carriage to the sea. The outfall pipe is fractured in two places and the seaward portion of the pipe was found to be completely blocked.

ABERDOVEY.—Water carriage to the Dovey Estuary. The outfall pipe was blocked and it was necessary to cut an opening in the pipe above low water mark where it emerged through the Wharf and to control the discharge according to the state of the tide.

BRYNCRUG.—Night soil collected with household refuse three times a week. Work was continued on the construction of a new sewerage scheme for the village.

CWRT.—Night soil collected with household refuse once a week.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse collection undertaken by Contractors. Twice weekly collection at Towyn and Aberdovey; three times a week at Brynchrug and once a week at Cwrt. Disposal is by tipping.

There is no general collection of salvaged waste materials. Traders at Towyn and Aberdovey dispose of their waste paper at two depots provided by the Council.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number and nature of inspections made during the year were as follows:—

Nuisances (including inspections of drainage, sanitary conveniences, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Housing-general	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Food Preparing Premises, including bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Abattoir	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Refuse Depositories	...	...	...	...	...	...	24

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS FOUND.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Obstructed drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defects to sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Improper disposal of sewage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lack of proper dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

RAG FLOCK ACT.

There are no manufacturers of rag flock in the area.

SHOPS ACT.

No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950.

FACTORIES ACT, 1936.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises,	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	7	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	18	3	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	46	10	NIL	NIL

No defects were found on inspection.

RODENT CONTROL.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year

No. of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	40
No. of business premises treated	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of private dwellings treated	...	...	...	...	...	22
No. of refuse tips treated	...	...	...	...	...	11

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

NEW HOUSES

Number of new houses erected during the year					
By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	26
By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	1

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	5
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	19
(2)	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925, and 1932	0
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	0
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	0
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the proceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	5

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.					
...	...	...	...	...	5

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:				
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs				0
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices				
	(a)	By owners.	...	...	0
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	0

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Act:—

(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied				0
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice.				
	(a)	By owners	...	...	0
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	..	..	0

(C) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	0

(D) Proceeding under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit.	...	0

4. HOUSING ACT 1936, PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

Owing to abnormal Housing conditions it has not been possible to keep any accurate records of overcrowding.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Milk distributors	...	...	...	...	11
No. of retailers of Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	2
No. of retailers of T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	...	...	...	...	1
No. of retailers of Ungraded milk	...	...	...	...	10

ICE CREAM.

No. of manufacturers	...	...	...	...	3
No. of premises registered for storage and sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	22

Three samples were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. Two of these were satisfactory and placed in Provisional Grade 1; the third sample was placed in Provisional Grade 3.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The following table sets out the number of carcasses inspected together with particulars of carcasses and parts there-of condemned for Tuberculosis and other conditions at the Ministry of Food Abattoir:—

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed & inspected	371	16	1828	150
All disease except Tuberculosis :-				
Whole carcasses condemned	6	5	13	16
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	325	7	313	21
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	89.22	75.0	17.83	24.66
Tuberculosis only :-				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	29	-	-	1
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	7.82	-	-	0.66

The total number of carcasses examined during the year was 2365.

Weight of Diseased and Unsound Meat and Offal Condemned

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
Meat	1	12	1	19
Offal	2	6	0	26
Total	3	18	2	17

The whole of this meat was disposed of through Ministry of Food Channels for processing and recovery purposes.

Meat Transport and Abattoir.

Access to the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse is very unsatisfactory and precludes the use of a proper vehicle for the distribution of meat to retailers shops in the district.

There is also urgent need for the provision of proper and adequate accommodation at the Abattoir, particularly for the detention and storage of diseased meat.

Other Foods Inspected and Surrendered.

						Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Various Canned Foods	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	7
Meat Products	...	...	...	...	...		1	6
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...			19¾
Tea	...	...	...	...	...		1	22¼
Flour Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...			18
Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...			3¼
Margarine and Butter	...	...	...	...	...			2½
Total						8	1	22¾

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Act is administered by the County Council.

Food Poisoning

No cases were notified during the year.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases notified during the year were as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	3
Measles	25
Whooping Cough	14

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Period	NEW CASES			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1—5 years	-	-	-	-
5—15 years	-	-	-	-
15—25 years	-	2	-	-
25—35 years	1	-	-	1
35—45 years	-	-	-	-
45—55 years	-	-	-	1
55—65 years	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-
Total	1	2	0	2

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

SECTION G.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948. SECTION 47.

No action was necessary during the year under the above Act.



